

Global Action to Prevent War

by John Fousek

John Fousek, is the Executive Director of World Order Models Project.

Global Action to Prevent War (GAP) is a coalition-building initiative which seeks to bring together civil society organizations and friendly governments to transform the present war system into a war-prevention system by the early decades of the 21st Century. Its comprehensive program combines conflict prevention, peacekeeping, and disarmament measures in an integrated approach to reduce the scale and frequency of violent conflict, including genocide and other internal strife.

GAP promotes a wide range of political and legal projects, for example, compulsory jurisdiction of states before the International Court of Justice and of individuals before the International Criminal Court; humanitarian intervention by UN standing forces; establishing a non-provocative or defensive security system; training in non-violent conflict resolution; and creating a global security environment more conducive to the elimination of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

The international coordinating committee includes prominent activists and policy analysts from both the North and the South, such as: Vandana Shiva, ecologist/feminist; Alejandro Bendana, Center for International Studies, Managua; Jacklyn Cock, University of Witwatersrand Peace and Security Project, Johannesburg; Walden Bello, Focus on the Global South, Bangkok and Manila; Mary Kaldor of the London School of Economics; Joseph Rotblat of Pugwash; Phon van den Biesen of IALANA and Cora Weiss of the Hague Appeal for Peace. International Organization members include: International Alert; IALANA; IPPNW; EarthAction; State of the World Forum; Global Education Associates; and the World Order Models Project.

In the coming year, GAP has been invited to make presentations at the State of the World Forum; the Nobel Conference, the Future of Arms Control; the Seoul Conference on the New Millennium; and the Montreal Conference on World Civil Society. GAP will also assist in the organization of the citizens' millennium conference at the UN, spring 2000. GAP is actively seeking to find a number of states at the UN to submit the draft in an appropriate forum so that it will be discussed and acted upon in the next two or three years.

The GAP program statement is a living document; your comments are welcome.
see www.globalactionpw.org, or contact the World Order Models Project at (212) 870-2391.